**1) StoryKit**



* **Overview:** Allows users to create digital stories using images, text, and sound. This is an excellent tool that students can use to create mini-projects that can summarize information or offer in-depth analysis of a particular topic.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** Being able to summarize information about a particular topic or region is a vital skill in social studies. This app helps students compile information *and* present it in a creative and exciting way. I could easily assign a mini-project through this app for homework, or use it as a class activity.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This would be a great way for students to compile information together and present it in a clear and easy way. Not only do students directly interact with the material, but they learn the material by teaching it through the presentation feature. They are not just regurgitating information, but are in fact working with it in a creative and analytical way. They have to process the information at a higher level because there is a creative component to this feature.

**2) Dragon Dictation**



* **Overview:** This app uses voice recognition technology that allows users to speak into the iPad and instantly see words in text format. Users can record, email, cut, or copy their notes or speeches. There also is the option of uploading their notes to either Facebook or Twitter.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This tool can help both teacher and student on many different levels. For the teacher, it can be a great productivity tool in terms of dictating emails or class notes. Students can use the tool to record homework, notes, or brainstorming ideas.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This app would be helpful when students go on field trips. They can easily take verbal notes when walking around a museum or record an interview for a project.



**3) Geo Walk**

* **Overview:** This app allows users to explore important places, animals, plants, people, and newsfeeds from places all over the world. With its friendly interface, users can navigate around the globe and upload their discoveries to Facebook, Twitter, or their email accounts.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This puts a new spin on the old geography map lesson. I really am impressed with its newsfeed feature. Students can click the newsfeed icon and get current information as to what discoveries are occurring in the world. There is also a quiz at the end to check for student understanding.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This breathes new life into the old geography lesson. This app is highly interactive as it allows students to physically turn the globe with their fingers. The globe itself shows the topographical features of world. Students can click on icons and interact with the material in a whole new way.



**4) See Touch Learn**

* **Overview:** This app allows users to create interactive lessons using visual cards and verbal prompts. This is a great tool for basic vocabulary learning.
* **Cost:** Free, but to add additional library lesson cards it is $2.99
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This can serve as a quick and easy review tool. It can be assigned as a review homework, a quick warm-up at the beginning of class, or a way teachers can check for understanding at the end of the period.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This app can serve as an interactive review sheet for test review. For each slide of the lesson, a category can be created. Students then choose the picture of the term that is prompted at the top of the page. This would be great for art history review where students have to memorize a large quantity of pieces. It also is a great tool to identify global concepts. For example, which of the following would be considered “technology” or “artifacts.”

**5) S’cool Buddy**



* **Overview:** This is a great productivity app that enables users to organize the assignments and information in their classes. Students can organize their assignment information, teacher information, personal schedules, contact information, assignment progress, and GPA.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This is a great productivity tool that can teach students valuable organizational skills. Students simply input their data into this device and can upload their progress/schedules to their email address. There is a great feature that allows students to track the progress of longer assignments in which they can record the percentage of the assignment they have completed. Assignments can be imputed based on class and teacher contact information can be accessed easily.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This is a great tool that can help so many students organize their information. It is really quick and easy to navigate and learn. I think it would be a wonderful tool for students who have difficulty organizing their assignments and tasks. Many students get frustrated with the amount of work and different information they are given (especially 9th graders). I think this would be a wonderful tool to help ease students into the transition between middle school and high school.



**6) PDF Reader Lite**

* **Overview:** This app allows users to interact with a pdf file. Users can open up a pdf file through their email with this app and zoom, highlight, print, forward, search within, and write comments on the pdf file.
* **Cost:** Free; upgrade to PDF Read iPad Edition is $4.99
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This can make viewing documents for DBQ much easier for students and myself. It also allows me to correct papers and forward them back to students in a “paperless” fashion. Students can also edit each other’s work much easier using this tool.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** I think this app would be an excellent way for my students to learn how to analyze documents! I am definitely going to incorporate this into my lesson. When I was student teaching, I had the luxury of a SmartBoard and did this great lesson where we analyzed a political cartoon as a class by having students use the SmartBoard to draw on the document for the entire class to see. I think this tool will allow me to facilitate that type of lesson, except students will be able to circle symbols and highlight passages on the iPad. I can just simply hook the iPad up to the projector and the entire class can see!



**7) Quizard**

* **Overview:** This app is a useful study aid. It allows users to make their own flashcards, convert the content to multiple choice questions, compose a final test, create crossword puzzles, and word search games.
* **Cost:** $2.99
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This would be a great way to study for exams, as it allows students to not only create their own stack of index cards, but it also enables users to share their cards with others.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** What makes this index card app different from other study apps and traditional paper index cards, is that this app allows students to input audio clips and images onto the index cards. This adds a whole new dimension to study sessions!



**8)** TapQuiz Maps

* **Overview:** This app allows users to learn world geography by playing a fun interactive tapping game. Users can choose a specific region of the world and they have a limited amount of time to tap the country when prompted.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This is a lot more interactive (and addicting), than your traditional map worksheet. Student accuracy and amount of time are recorded, and you are rated immediately upon completion of the game with a total out of 3 stars.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This is a wonderful tool to teach geography. Students can choose a specific area of the world and then track their progress. What I love about this app is how detailed-oriented it is. The statistics show you which areas of the world you need to study down to the accuracy you have for identifying each country. Not to mention, this is a fun and very addicting game that I can see my students getting hooked on.



**9)** eClicker Host & eClicker

* **Overview:** This app is similar in concept to a CPS clicker. The teacher (host) can create a question and poll his/her class (audience) to check for understanding.
* **Cost:** eClicker Host app $9.99; eClicker (for students/participants in the poll) Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This is the new exit slip! This is a quick way to make sure all your students understand the material covered in class. There is also a timer feature as well
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** A really cool feature of this app is that it allows students to text responses to the teacher, so they do not simply have to always answer multiple choice questions. The students may also submit pictures as well.



**10)** City of Wonder

* **Overview:** This game allows users to explore the basic foundations of civilization. Students can explore ancient civilizations, construct pyramids, The Great Wall, the Coliseum, and Stonehenge.
* **Cost:** Free
* **Does it make something I currently do easier:** This can reinforce the idea that civilizations need an organized government to flourish. It is a great simulation tool that students can use to reinforce this concept. Students can compare their scores and civilizations to one another. A great feature of this game is that students can interact, fight, and trade with other players. They also come into contact with Alexander the Great and other historical figures.
* **Does it help us engage in a totally new way that can be shown to advance technology:** This is a great way to get students talking about the material outside of school. I love the social feature of allowing the different civilizations of students to interact. Vocabulary words like “domestication” and “Alexander the Great” are all used in this simulation, so students will not only see the words on the screen, but they will have to know what they mean in order to be successful at this game. When I talk to my students, they all seem familiar with the game, The Sims, where players control every aspect of a computer character’s life. This is similar in that players are controlling an entire civilization. I think this would be a very addicting game for my students, just based on their interests in simulation gaming. I believe it would be a great way for students to continue the conversation of global outside of school.